What is claimed is:

1. An orthopedic implant system, comprising:

a plate member for placement adjacent and along one or more bones and having a longitudinal axis, said plate member including a slot substantially parallel to said plate axis therethrough, said slot including a channel portion that extends through substantially the entire longitudinal dimension of said plate member;

a stabilizer, said stabilizer including an opening therethrough substantially bounded by a wall, said opening having a longitudinal axis, said stabilizer further including at least one finger portion extending laterally with respect to said opening axis, wherein said finger portion is received within said channel so that said opening communicates with said slot;

a bone bolt, said bone bolt having a bone engaging portion, an intermediate portion and a threaded post portion, said bolt extending through said opening of said stabilizer and said slot of said plate member so that said intermediate portion is adjacent said wall of said stabilizer;

a washer having a rounded top surface, a bottom surface, and an aperture therethrough adapted for fitting around a portion of said bolt; and

a nut separate from said washer and having a body portion and a skirt portion, a threaded hole extending through said body portion for threaded engagement with said bolt, wherein said nut and said washer are coupled together prior to engagement with said bolt.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said nut and said washer are rotatable with respect to each other and translatable with respect to each other.

3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein said nut includes a sleeve portion partially within said skirt portion and substantially concentric with said hole.

4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said washer includes an undercut having a first diameter within said aperture, and said nut and said washer are coupled together by inserting said sleeve portion into said aperture and expanding a part of said sleeve portion to a second diameter greater than said first diameter.

5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said sleeve portion includes an end relatively distant from said body portion, and said end forms said expanded part of said sleeve portion.

6. The implant system of claim 1, wherein said bone bolt further includes a tool engaging recess for use in threading said bolt in said bones.

7. The implant system of claim 1, wherein said intermediate portion of said bolt has an enlarged portion configured to be received in said opening of said stabilizer in a plurality of different orientations.

8. The implant system of claim 7, wherein said enlarged portion includes a surface having a spherical portion.

9. The implant system of claim 1, wherein said plate member includes a plurality of slots therethrough.

10. The implant system of claim 9, wherein said plate is curved.

11. The implant system of claim 1, wherein said nut has a longitudinal axis, and further includes a tab extending from said nut and angling toward said nut axis, said tab adapted to cooperate with said threaded post portion of said bolt to resist loosening of said nut.

12. The implant of claim 1, wherein said stabilizer has a generally octagonal upper surface and a rounded lower surface.

13. The implant of claim 1, further comprising at least a second one of said bone bolt, at least a second one of said stabilizer associated with said second bolt, at least a second one of said washer associated with said second bolt, and at least a second one of said nut associated with said second bolt, wherein said second washer and said second nut are coupled together prior to engagement with said second bolt.

14. A method for fixing one or more bones in a desired relationship, comprising:

providing the apparatus of claim 13;

placing said bones in said desired relationship;

threading said bolts into said bones;

placing said plate member with said stabilizers over said bolts, wherein said post portions of said bolts extend outside said plate member and said intermediate portions of said bolts are retained in respective ones of said openings in said stabilizers;

orienting said plate member with respect to said bolts so that said plate member is positioned to stabilized said bones;

threading said coupled washers and nuts on respective post portions of said bolts;

tightening said nuts on said post portions to lock said bolts and said plate member together.

15. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of rotating one or more of said washers relative to a respective bolt to accommodate angular offset of the bolt relative to said elongated member.